

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicants enclose Replacement Sheets for Figs. 1-2 with the added caption "Prior Art."

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending in the application. Applicants amend claim 3 for a minor correction, and amend claims 1, 6, and 11 for clarification. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner objected to Figs. 1-2 under MPEP § 608.02(g) for failing to designate that which is old as “Prior Art.” Applicants attach Replacement Sheets for Figs. 1-2 with the designation “Prior Art,” and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection.

Claims 3-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention.

Applicants amend claim 3 in accordance with the Examiner’s suggestion, and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the § 112, ¶ 2 rejection.

Claims 1, 6, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,101,549 to Baugher et al. (I) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,581,703 to Baugher et al. (II); claims 3-4, 8-9, and 13-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baugher et al. (I) and Baugher et al. (II) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,275,470 to Ricciulli; and claims 2, 5, 7, 10, 12, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Baugher et al. (I) and Baugher et al. (II) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,687,167 to Bertin et al. Applicants amend claims 1, 6, and 11 in a good faith effort to clarify the invention as distinguished from the cited references, and respectfully traverse the rejections.

The Examiner responded to Applicants’ remarks on the patentability of claim 1 by stating that the features relied upon by Applicants were not recited in the rejected claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the features described by Applicants are incorporated in claims 1, 6, and 11. Again, Baugher et al. (I), as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, merely describe a proxy host that only includes means for communicating with an edge router—i.e., relaying messages

from a requesting host to a receiving host. Thus, the proxy host described in Baugher et al. (I) only forwards resource reservation protocol (“RSVP”) messages to a receiving host. Indeed, a network component device, such as the edge router, described in Baugher et al. (I) must support RSVP. And the Examiner relied upon Baugher et al. (II) to specifically address the feature of a host receiving a network service request from a user. Thus, even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to skilled in the art to combine these references, the combination would still have failed to disclose or suggest,

“[a] service allocating device in a network where at least one first device which responds to a network service request transmitted by a user and at least one second device which does not support a protocol of the network service request are connected and said second device having a setting of which can be modified from outside said second device, comprising:

a network information collecting section for obtaining information about a network service provided by the first device, responsive to the network service request, by communicating with said first device;

a setting device determining section for specifying the second device, which does not support the protocol of the network service request, by calculating an IP route based on information from the network information collecting section;

a service mapping section for mapping network service parameters for setting priority-based control and routing information to be set into parameter values corresponding to the second device specified by the setting device determining section; and

a service setting section for communicating with the second device and setting the parameter values obtained by the service mapping section in the second device,

thereby said service allocating device responds to the network service request by controlling the parameter values of the second device, allowing the second device to provide a network service corresponding to the network service provided by the first device, according to the network service request received by the first device,” as recited in claim 1

Thus, the claimed service allocating device includes a service setting section for setting parameter values in a second device that does not support a protocol of a network service request, and, therefore, provides for reserving a resource for a relaying router that does not respond to the RSVP.

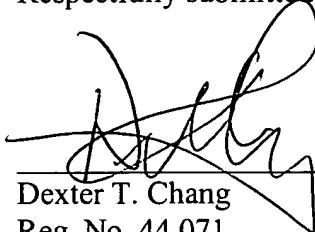
Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentable over Baugher et al. (I) and Baugher et al. (II), separately and in combination, for at least the above-stated reasons. Claims 6 and 11 incorporate features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and are, therefore, patentable over the cited references for at least the same reasons. The Examiner relied upon Ricciulli and Bertin et al. as combining references to specifically address the additional features recited in the dependent claims. As such, the addition of these references would still have failed to cure the above-described deficiencies of Baugher et al. (I) and Baugher et al. (II) even assuming, arguendo, that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to combine these references in the manner proposed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-5, 7-10, and 12-15 are patentable over the cited references for at least the foregoing reasons.

The above statements on the disclosures in the cited references represent the present opinions of the undersigned attorney. The Examiner is respectfully requested to specifically indicate those portions of the respective reference that provide the basis for a view contrary to any of the above-stated opinions.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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